

REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is being filed in conjunction with the filing of the present divisional patent application. Claims 1-6, 13-17 and 23-24 have been cancelled above as claims not directed to the method identified as Group II in the parent patent application. Claims 7, 8 and 18 have been amended above to clarify certain aspects of applicants' claimed invention. These amendments are not being made to limit or narrow the scope of protection. New claims 25-32 have been added above to claim the features recited therein.

Favorable consideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issue remain, the examiner is invited to call applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark F. Harrington

Mark F. Harrington (Reg. No. 31,686)

4/7/04

Date

Customer No.: 29683
Harrington & Smith, LLP
4 Research Drive
Shelton, CT 06484-6212
203-925-9400

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" on the date shown below addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

EV 381 031 22045

Mailing Label Number

4/7/2004
Date

lynn maroldi 
Name of Person Making Deposit